



VOL. XXII.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 23, 1854.

NO. 13.



Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

THE PAST WINTER.

The sun "crossed the line," as it is called, that is he crossed the equator on his return northward, on Monday evening. This, according to the astronomers, closes the accounts of winter, and commences those of spring. The past winter must be put on the record as one of uncommon severity. The snows have been frequent and accumulated to great depths, and the number of intensely cold days have been greater than usual.

We have had but one thaw, by rain, since snow first fell in the latter part of December, consequently there is now a great body upon the ground.

The first snow storm was a powerful one, and this was succeeded two days after by another equally abundant in the amount of drifts. Such an unusual piling up of drifts, at the onset, made it difficult travelling, and this state of things has continued throughout the interior and frontier of the State, ever since. Hence the season has not been what is called a good one for business. We, here in Maine, like to have snow come in good season but in moderate quantities, so as to enable us to stir about among it easily. In such a case it is a blessing to us, and greatly facilitates and promotes business. Some of our old men say that we have not had so cold a season, with such an amount of snow since 1790.

During that winter (1790), the snow fell very abundantly, at the first of the season, the weather continued cold, and the snow laid on late. People crossed the ponds on the ice in Winthrop, and other parts of the county of Kennebec, as late as the 22d of May.

We think they will find no ice to travel on so late as that, next May. Since March came in the weather has been mild, and the snow is "going into liquidation" fast. It is generally believed, by those who have made the subject of meteorology and temperature, a study, that there is little or no change in the temperature and duration of winter, from that of olden time. The records of thermometric observations, warrant this belief, as do also the record of the times of blossoming of trees and shrubs. But nevertheless, we believe it must be acknowledged that the snow does not lie upon the ground so long with us as in old times. The clearing of the forest thus opening the country to the influence of the sun, undoubtedly causes the removal of the snow at an earlier period in the season than formerly, while the earth may not warm up much earlier, nor the trees bloom, nor the last start any earlier. We know that a warm rain, which would wash the snow from a field, would not do it wholly in an adjoining wood. So also the rays of the sun will melt the snow in an open space, when it cannot do it in a shaded wood near by. Hence, the more forest, the longer the snow will linger on the face of the country, while the thermometer will indicate nearly or quite the same temperature, as it would in the same place at the same time of the year should the ground be bare. This may appear a little paradoxical, and we may be wrong, but we shall require more careful observations on the subject than have yet been, made before we give it up.

MAPLE SUGAR.

In 1850, there was made in the United States, thirty-four and a quarter millions of pounds of maple sugar. This was about one-seventh as much as there was of cane sugar, so that cane sugar is seven times as plenty as maple sugar, but maple sugar we think is seven times better.

Of this 34,125,000 pounds, Maine made but 93,542 pounds. New Hampshire made more than a million and a quarter. Vermont more than six millions of pounds. Massachusetts more than seven hundred and ninety five thousand pounds. Connecticut more than fifty thousand, and New York more than ten million pounds.

Now, if you take out New York from the above list of States, you would find that Maine has more than three times as many maples as any one of the others. Why do we not make three times as much sugar as either of them?

The reason why we do not, is probably this. Our commerce with the Southern States and the West Indies, is very extensive, and we can obtain the cane sugar, and transport it even to the doors of our foresters, and sell it to them cheaper than they can make the maple sugar. This seems hardly possible, but we do not know how else to account for it.

Most of our farmers, in the interior of the State, have extensive ranges of maple forest, and on the public lands are millions of acres of the sugar maples, which any body may tap who desires to, without any one saying to them, why dost thou so?

We think it might be a pleasant occupation, if not a profitable one, to start off and commence the business in some of the State's sugar bushes, encamping upon the ground, in a lumberman's fashion, and working at the business while the sap time lasts. It would be full as pleasant to do this time on a mossy hill, as to camp out for the same time on a mossy hill, and full as profitable.

If the Vermonters can make it profitable to manufacture six millions of pounds per annum, why may not our frontier farmers find it so to make enough to supply ourselves?

CHAPPED HANDS. Mix a quart of a pound of unsalted hog's lard, which should be washed first in water, and then in rose water, with the yolk of a new laid egg and a large spoonful of honey. Add to this as much fine oatmeal or almond paste as will make the whole into a paste, and apply this after washing the hands.

WASH YOUR FRUIT TREES.

During some of the warm and leisurely days of spring, before the buds of your fruit trees swell much, and the leaves begin to start, it would be well to wash your fruit trees from top to bottom. If you cannot find any thing more convenient, a weak lye made of wood ashes will be good. There will not be so much danger of injuring the trees before the buds start by this preparation. A lye made of a pound of potash to two gallons of water makes a good wash. There are, however, two better preparations than those above mentioned. The first is a solution of carbonate of soda, commonly called soda, and the second is a soda made of white oil soap. We have used the soda and like it better than the lye of ashes or potash. It is now used a good deal in what are called washing fluids, and the dealers can afford to let you have it cheaper than potash.

Put a pound into two gallons of water, and apply it with a swab. We never saw any damage done by it. It will keep the bark green, and it kills the moss, which instantly changes color on touching it, and in time scales off. The whole oil soap can be bought in casks in Boston at the seed stores. It is an excellent preparation for this purpose—cleaning and invigorating the bark and destroying mooses, and such like nuisances, and also insects.

Sometimes apple trees, especially young trees, become plastered over with a species of scales, looking like a minute muscle shell, which sticks very closely to the bark. They are the covering to an egg of a minute fly, that lays them there, and they are injurious to the growth of the tree. Soft soap smeared over them will destroy them. Dr. Norris recommends two parts of soap, eight parts of water, and lime enough to make a whitewash, which he would apply with a brush. This may be applied any time.

For the Maine Farmer.

WEST LINCOLN AG. AND HORT. SOCIETY. At the Annual Meeting of the West Lincoln Agricultural and Horticultural Society, held at Lewiston, 8th inst., the following officers were elected:

President—Elijah Barrell, Greene. Vice Presidents—Wm. Neal, Lisbon; Daniel Pierce, Portland. Recording Secretary—Wm. R. Wright, Lewiston. Corresponding Secretary—Wm. R. Fry, Lewiston. Treasurer—Mark Lowell, Frye. Agent—E. H. Hana, Lewiston. Librarian—Calvin Reed, Danville. Trustees—John M. Frye, Lewiston; Augustus Sprague, Greene; Robert Martin, Danville; Francis F. Purington, Topsham; J. Strout, Durham.

FINANCIAL REPORT. We had in Treasurer's hands, from last Agricultural year up to March, 1853, \$178.80. Interest of same 5.36. Have received on assessments, and of new members, &c. 337.21.

Making in the whole, \$521.37. We have paid out for premiums and necessary expenses, \$89.49. Leaving in hands of Treasurer, \$131.88. Amount to be received from State, 150.00.

There then left in the treasury, \$281.88. J. M. FRYE, Chairman of Trustees.

Voted, To strike out so much of Art. 1st of By-Laws as refers to a semi-annual meeting in September.

Voted, To assess a tax of one dollar on every male member excepting life members.

Voted, To request the Trustees to not offer premiums on farms.

Voted, To request the several papers published in this place, and the Maine Farmer, to publish the doings of this meeting.

Adjourned sine die.

Our meeting was truly an interesting one, the farmers turned out in their strength, and by an interchange of thoughts and feelings, all appeared to be well paid for their attendance.

There were quite a number of topics discussed, which were of much value to the farmer, among which were, "small potatoes for seed, hen manure, guano, super-phosphate of lime, buying stable manure to be drawn 4 or 5 miles, vs. making dressing by the assistance of swine."

We feel encouraged by this increasing interest, and shall adopt as our motto, "Excelsior!" Wm. R. WRIGHT, Rec. Sec. Lewiston, March 9th, 1854.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE POTATO ROT.

Mr. Editor:—This serious drawback upon the farming interest, has engaged the attention of men of men of learning, of science, and of agricultural experience, and the thousand and one antidotes that have been published, have proved entire failures; the cause of the evil seems to be as mysterious and the remedy as difficult as that of the Asiatic Cholera, a disease, in some respects it has been compared. Some have even gone so far as to claim for their pretended discovery of a remedy, the large reward offered by Massachusetts, but without the least prospect of obtaining the reward from that liberal State. After what has been written and published, the subject would seem to be nearly if not quite exhausted. I nevertheless beg leave to offer through the medium of your useful journal, a remedy that has proved successful with me, (but without intending at present to claim the reward above referred to,) viz: to four bushels of ashes, add one bushel of plaster, and 8 quarts of salt; mix them well together, then use about a gill to each hill of potatoes, placing it near the potato, (not upon it) at the time of planting. The ashes and salt will answer very well when the plaster is not at hand. My crop the past year was as usual, and the potatoes were of good quality.

F. A. BRYAN.

Dismont, March 14, 1854.

A NEW REMEDY FOR CURCULIO.

I have in my yard two plum trees, which have blossomed well every spring for more than ten years past, and have been, literally, loaded with young fruit; but not one solitary plum escaped the ravages of the curculio long enough to mature, until last summer when one of the trees produced a fair crop. These trees stand about ten rods asunder; and their circumstances, as to soil, exposure, and situation in reference to other trees, are nearly alike as may be. During the past ten years I have tried every thing—except "catching the critter"—which I have seen recommended in agricultural works for repelling the curculio, but found nothing effectual until last season. I yarded my pigs in a small space about them for several weeks, to no good purpose. They were dusted with lime and ashes every morning for a long time without success. Holes bored into the body of the tree, and filled with sulphur, and stopped with a plug, had no perceptible influence. Many other remedies proved quite as ineffectual.

But last spring, early in May, in grading my yard around one of these trees, to the depth of ten to twelve inches, I discovered a nest of the curculio in the soil, and I immediately dug it out, and the team in traveling over it, packed it down very firmly. I had resolved, that if I found no fruit this year, I would cut them down. The result was, that the tree which had hitherto yielded about a fair crop of ripe fruit; while from the other one, although it is well filled with young fruit, every plum dropped before they were half grown. I observed when the curculio was committing depredations, and the fruit was dropping daily, that from the tree, around which dirt had been drawn, but few plums fell to the ground in consequence of having been stung.

It would appear, from the fact, that the curculio hibernates but little; that it hibernates in the soil, under the branches of the trees, on which it has flourished the preceding summer; and that having, or burying it in the soil, a few inches deeper than it is accustomed to burrow, delays its resurrection, until the young fruit has grown so as not to be injured by these little marauders.

I design to make some experiments this season in repelling the curculio; and if I am successful, I will furnish you with details respecting them, and the result. S. EDWARDS TOWN. Late Bridge, Towns, Co., N. Y.

Similar experiments to the above have come under our own observation, but no covering of the surface of the ground has yet proved entirely effectual. Mr. Manice, of Long Island, paved the ground under his plum trees, but did not entirely succeed in keeping out the depredators till he entirely surrounded them with a high board fence. Against this the curculios would strike in great numbers while attempting to reach the trees. [American Agriculturist.]

THE POTATO ROT.

The potato rot has for a number of years past been a scourge to the crops of New England farmers, and many inquiries have been made as to its remedy, in all the agricultural papers; but as yet I have never seen anything which appears to answer the purpose of saving the crop. Now I propose to send you the results of three or four years' experience, in which I have been eminently successful. While my neighbors have lost many, if not all of their potatoes, mine have remained sound, and kept well. The rule that I employ is: plant your potatoes just as early as the ground will admit, and put nothing but a spoonful of plaster in the hole with the seed. After the ground is once well clear of frost, there is not much danger of its being frozen deep enough to spoil the seed; and if the crop is grown so early in the season, it will lie in the ground in the fall, and be sound, while the latter grown and matured ones will rot. In this way of planting, I have this year taken my seed from the same bin as my neighbor, and from twelve bushels of seed shall have at least one hundred and fifty bushels of sound potatoes; while his, with only a few between us, are scarcely worth the digging. [Boston Cultivator.]

Here is another remedy from Moore's Rural New Yorker: "In a recent conversation with John C. McVean, of Southville, N. Y., he informed us that last fall, at the time of harvesting the potatoes, he put two heaps in the cellar, dusting one of the heaps with quick lime as they were thrown in from the wagon. The potatoes in this heap kept well, while those in the other, not lined, nearly all rotted. We published a similar statement some weeks since, and have observed many experiments recorded, giving like results."

MINING SCHOOLS. Measures are being taken in Cornwall county, Eng., for establishing a mining school, with branches in various portions of the county, where instruction shall be given in mathematics, natural philosophy and mechanics, applied mechanics, plan drawing, surveying, leveling, machine drawing and construction, mine accounts and mine surveying, chemistry, with special application to metallurgy and assaying, mineralogy and geology, working of mines and preparation of ores. It is estimated that a competent knowledge of these subjects might be acquired by a diligent pupil in two yearly courses of six or eight months each. The entrance fee will be £20, except in the case of practical miners, when it will be reduced. These schools are to be connected with the school of mines in London, by which all the advantages of communicating with a central source of information will be secured.

MACHINE FOR MAKING CLINCH RINGS. G. M. Patten, Bath, Me., has invented an improvement in machines for punching clinch rings, such as are frequently employed as washers. The nature of the invention consists in a novel arrangement of levers by which the upper die is pushed through the ring for forming the central hole, and the lower die is at the same time made to give the proper shape and finish to the rings. The punching die is provided with a sliding collar, and the female die with an elastic seat, by the action of which the ring is discharged from the dies after it is formed. [Scientific American.]

PUTTING UP THE CLOTHES LINE.

DEAR Mrs. BATHAM:—We always had so much trouble at our house on washing days, to get the clothes line put up so as to hold the clothes until they were dry. We had a big nail driven in the post at the corner of the wood house, to which we tied one end of the line, then we took it to an apple tree, about four rods off, and gave it a turn around a limb, from there it is carried to the high part of the garden gate, and then brought back to the well curb. If it was a still, bright day, and the folks were not at work in the yard, we got along well enough, but sometimes the winds would blow and flap the clothes about, and being so far from the wood house to the apple tree, they would sweep the ground, unless we propped them up with a forked stick; in which case the whole stretch would sail over, just as a clipper's sail jibes, when the bow is brought into the wind's eye, as the sailors say; and after a few such somersets, the old line would give away, and let the whole washing down in the mud! Mrs. B. did you ever see a woman with a whole washing upset in that way? Its of no use talking to her then! Another trouble was, that the line from the gate to the well curb was right over the path from the barn to the house, so that the men in passing with the horses generally left their mark upon the clean clothes. We worried over these annoyances a long while, until "forbearance ceased to be a virtue," for we were growing wicker every week, and Pa said he would see to it as soon as he had time; but it seemed to us the time never would come; so when he went to Columbus to stay a day or two, we bribed Billy—a good natured fellow, who is half a carpenter—to make a nice revolving frame—two cross sticks like this, with a hole for a peg at the crossing to fasten it flat on the top of a post in the ground. The post is about as high as our heads, and all along on the top of the cross sticks are pegs like those on a bedstead, about a foot apart, to hold the line, which is run around from one arm to another, almost like a spider web.

The arms of the cross timbers on our frame are about two yards and a half long from the post, and this will hold a large washing. When we carry out a basket of wet clothes we can set it down at a hank one angle full, and turn it around and fill another, without taking up the basket by hanging the sheets, &c., on the outside ropes, which are longest, we can get places for all, where they will not sweep the ground, or be in any body's way; and by turning the whole, once in a while, the sun will dry them at once. It was a wise and simple plan, and he saw how much better natured we were on washing days, he said there was more morality in a good clothes line, than he had imagined.

SUN BONNET. [Ohio Cultivator.]

TELEGRAPH FROM NEWFOUNDLAND TO IRELAND. We find in the Washington papers of yesterday, an official document addressed to the Secretary of the Navy by Lieut. Maury, giving the results of the deep sea soundings effected by Lieut. Berryman, from the shores of Newfoundland to those of Ireland. These seem to be decisive of the question as to the practicability of a submarine telegraph across the Atlantic ocean, in that region, the distance between the nearest points of the two countries being one thousand six hundred miles, and the bottom of the sea being a plateau the whole distance, singularly adapted to the purpose of holding a line of magnetic telegraph wire.

The depth of the plateau is quite regular, gradually increasing from the shores of Newfoundland, where it is fifteen hundred fathoms, until it reaches two thousand fathoms when approaching the other side. This is just suited to the purpose, the depth being such as to secure the wires against the perils of icebergs, anchors, etc., and yet not too deep to be useful. More remarkable than this is the fact that, upon this admirable plateau, "the waters of the sea appear as quiet and as completely at rest as they are at the bottom of a mill pond;" that "there are no perceptible currents and abraded agents at work at the bottom of the sea upon this telegraphic plateau;" consequently a telegraphic wire once lodged there, there it would remain, as completely beyond the reach of the accidents of drift as it would if buried in an air tight case." Lieut. Maury suggests that the wires telegraphic wire the first message shall be passed across the Atlantic.

[Philadelphia U. S. Gazette.]

THE RAIL-CAR BRAKE OPERATOR. An excursion was made on the Boston and Worcester Railroad, this forenoon, for the purpose of showing the operation of the Rail-Car Brake operator, which was noticed in our columns a day or two since. The train consisted of five passenger cars, an engine and tender, and had about two hundred passengers, many of whom were connected with the management from various railroads. The result of the experiments appeared to be perfectly satisfactory to all.

The train running at 30 miles an hour was stopped in a few feet more than its length, which was 243 feet. This sudden stopping caused no unpleasant sensation to the passengers; there was less of a jar than is occasioned by the sudden application of the brakes in the usual manner. Another experiment tried with perfect success, was that of leaving a car at a depot while the rest of the train continued on at full speed. As a power to be held in reserve in case of an emergency, and be operated instantaneously by the engineer, the new invention showed itself to be of the greatest value. [Boston Journal, 9th.]

A NEW CARE. A Lyons journal states a new plan of building carts and other vehicles has been discovered, by which a horse can be made to draw a load one-half heavier than by carts as at present constructed. The new vehicle has four wheels, and when the horse is harnessed the foremost pair come to about the middle of his body. The weight is thrown on the axles, and the vehicle is constructed in such a way that part of it covers the horse up to the neck.

THE BREEZE OF SPRING.

Dull Winter hastens to be gone—
He's disappearing fast;
The sunny hours are coming on—
The stormy time is past.
The ice no longer lingers the rill,
Nor shows their mantle fling;
For every brook and harren hill
Has kissed the breeze of Spring.
I hear it made in the wood—
It sighs along the vale;
Where summer flowers in beauty stand,
It lingers in the dale;
It plays upon the primrose banks,
And rustles its merry wing;
The drooping willow kindly thanks
The westering breeze of Spring.
Ah! well it knows where violets grow
In the lone and shady lane;
It bids its sweet blue farthings blow,
And onward speeds again.
It wakes the flowers of the field,
And they their offerings bring—
The flowers their sweetest incense yield
To scent the breeze of Spring.
The blackbird from the hawthorn branch
Renews his lively strain;
On topmost branches stands the thrush,
And tunes his throat again;
At close of evening calm and mild
He makes the forest ring
With native wood-notes, clear and wild:
He loves the breeze of Spring.
The robin leaves his winter friends
For holocausts far away—
Above his noisy nest he bends,
And pipes his plaintive lay.
The lark, uprising with the light,
On merry mounting wing,
Strains all his might till out of sight,
And hails the breeze of Spring.
A hundred voices fill the air—
The sun shines warmer down;
Away with each intruding care,
And leave the gloomy train.
Come, roam along the wood-path green—
Hear nature's favorites sing—
Enjoy the soul-enlivening scene,
And woo the breeze of Spring.

THE PLAIN WHY AND REASON.
Why is muriatic acid recommended for cleaning old books and prints? Because, though it removes the stains of common ink, it does not affect printer's ink. For the latter use, add half an ounce of red lead to three ounces of common muriatic acid. Where writings have been effaced for fraudulent purposes with this acid, sulphuretted ammonia, and prussiate of potash, will revive the writing and discover the artifice. Very old writings may be revived in this way. If indigo and oxide of manganese be added to common ink, it will prevent its being effaced by chlorine. With various bases, muriatic acid forms the salts called muriates; and muriates, when in a state of dryness, are actually chlorides. Why are certain metals malleable, or reducible into thin plates or leaves by hammering? Because their atoms come equally in whatever relative situation they happen to be, and therefore yield to force, and shift about among each other, almost like the atoms of a fluid, without fracture or change of property.

Why are some metals called native? Because they occur pure or unalloyed, and have but a feeble attraction for oxygen; such as platinum, gold, silver, mercury and copper. Metals are also found combined with simple supporters of combustion: the chief of these are metallic oxides. Metals combined with simple inflammables, include native metallic sulphures. Metals in combination with acids, include metallic salts. Why is lead employed in refining the precious metals? Because when mixed with them in a great heat, it rises to the surface combined with all the heterogeneous matter. Lead is employed to coat buildings, to form water-pipes, though Vitruvius, the Roman architect, in the time of Augustus, condemned this practice, and to make a great variety of vessels for economical purposes. Its oxides are used for dyeing and calico printing, and in the manufacture of glass, earthen ware, and porcelain: and lead is capable of forming various alloys. There is also a large consumption of lead in making shot.

Why are light-houses built in a circular form? Because, partaking of the properties of the arch, it best enables them to withstand the fury of the tempests, from every quarter. The Eclips-stone light-house, built by Mr. Smeaton, the English engineer, is a splendid triumph of this principle.

Why are brimstone matches used in phosphoric fire-boxes? Because the sulphur of the match readily combines with the phosphorus in the bottle, by friction against rock or wood, and inflames; indeed, phosphorus and sulphur combined are more inflammable than phosphorus.

Why is it difficult to light paper by the flame of phosphorus? Because the paper becomes covered and protected by the acid formed by the combustion of the phosphorus. When perfectly dry, phosphorus inflames at a temperature of 60 degrees.

Why is electricity beneficial to plants? Because electrified seeds pass more rapidly through the first periods of vegetation, than such as are not electrified; and electrified roses flower more rapidly and abundantly. Plants with pointed leaves and spines attract electricity.

VEGETABLE MECHANICS. There is a remarkable tree on the farm of the late Hon. Oliver Ballou, of Cumberland, R. I., which is an emblem of himself in his struggles against the obstacles of life. An old elm standing near a mass of rocks, dead. A young elm then appeared in a fissure of this rock, casting down its slender roots, and in twenty or thirty years, it has become a foot and a half in diameter. Its roots have penetrated into and under the rock, and have loosened and partly lifted ten tons more, which in a few years will be separated from the mass. The roots to bear the immense pressure upon them, have become changed from the ordinary appearance, and have a tough casing which may be compared to the skin of an alligator. The provisions thus made by nature for the growth of the tree under such difficult circumstances, furnish a striking specimen of what may be called vegetable mechanics. The greatest wonder is that the roots could grow and expand under such a heavy pressure of hard substance. [Providence Post.]

CLEMENS'S FLAX DRESSING MACHINE.

We have several times mentioned this machine, since its first trial demonstrated its high merit, and take pleasure in referring to it again, for the present state of the flax interest in this country demands that publicity be given to all those improvements that are from time to time made in flax machinery. This machine has been greatly improved since the first model was made; and a new one has recently been constructed in this city by Mills & Carpenter, which is the result of the suggestions of a long series of experiments, and which seems to be perfect. Its operation is certainly so, and we believe that we risk nothing in saying that it is the best flax-dressing machine ever made. It is the only machine in the world, so far as we know, which can dress unrotted flax. Two other machines have been invented in this country, that have presented large claims to public attention, but neither of them can do anything with unrotted flax, and in this very fact is demonstrated the superiority of Mr. Clemens's machine, for if it will do the harder, well, it must do the easier, better. Hardly any flax is made, for a fiber is broken, and so clean is the flax-fiber left that a really handsome cordage has been made from the unrotted flax, just as it came from the machine, in which no shives were to be seen. The machine cleans the mown or tangled flax nearly or quite as well as the pulled and laid, and the inventor assures us that this material has only to be kiln dried, before dressing, to make a very valuable paper stock, that needs no further process before reaching the paper maker's hands. The machine will dress not far from a ton of flax straw in a day, which will yield from 400 to 500 pounds of the fiber, all ready for the market. By its capacity for working up the tangled flax into paper stock and upholsterer's tow, not a particle of the material is wasted.

The machine which we have alluded to is to be taken to the west, into the best flax-growing region, for exhibition, and Mr. Clemens will accompany it. We commend it to the examination of all interested, for we have not the first doubt that their opinion, after seeing it operate, will coincide with ours. We commend to them also the educated and accomplished inventor himself. They will find a thorough gentleman, and a man posted in all matters touching the flax interest—an interest which must grow among them to one of great magnitude. [Springfield Republican.]

PROFITS OF SHEEP.

We have published much, from time to time, as to the profits of keeping sheep. We have always been satisfied in our own mind, from the facts furnished in statistics of sheep-keeping, that on lands adapted to the business, there was no branch of husbandry so light and agreeable in point of labor; imposing so little responsibility in point of risk; or so remunerative for the capital invested.

Mrs. Jane A. Morrison, residing in Maine, writes to the New-England Farmer, in relation to the profit of a small flock of sheep, as follows:—

"The income of my 18 sheep, that I wintered last winter, has been \$90.80, the present year. In April, I sold one sheep that did not have a lamb, for \$4. From the wool sheared from the other 17, I received \$21 80, 40 cents per pound. For 24 lambs, I received \$55. My sheep number the same as last winter, keeping one of my lambs to supply the place of the sheep I sold."

In Washington county, in this State, there are many large farms devoted exclusively to wool-growing—some of them containing three thousand sheep—and the profits are regarded as greater than could be derived from any other use to which the land could be applied. The Wool-growers are generally men of intelligence and respectability, and a friend, who was recently among them, informs us that they are enabled to live from their business, in handsome style. [German town Telegraph.]

MANUFACTURE OF CANDLES. F. Capiccionio, of London, has patented a new mode of making candles as follows: When the tallow for making the candles is melted in the kettle, about one seven thousandth of its quantity by weight, of the acetate of lead is added, and well stirred among the whole for fifteen minutes. The heat is then lowered, but the tallow is still retained in a liquid state. About one thousandth part by weight, of turpentine, and a little of any of the perfumed resins are then thrown in, and all well stirred until the whole are thoroughly incorporated together; this takes about two hours, one hour for stirring, and one hour for rest, the uncombined impurities to settle to the bottom. The acetate of lead, it is said, makes the tallow hard and much superior to tallow not so treated; and upon the whole the composition makes very superior candles.

BENEFITS OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS. Three years ago the Legislature of North Carolina made an appropriation for a geological survey of the State. The discoveries of the first year developed the existence of copper and gold ores, drew to them the attention of capitalists, and have already increased the revenues of the State to five times the cost of the whole survey. In the second year, seams of the purest bituminous coal, some of them fifteen feet in thickness, extending through a region of some forty-five square miles, rewarded their investigations. It is estimated that every thousand acres of these seams will yield thirty millions of tons of bituminous coal of the best quality.

IMPROVED CORN PLANTER. Charles A. Wakefield, of Plainfield, Mass., has made application for a patent upon an improved Corn Planter, of which the novelty consists in forcing the seed directly into the soil by a plunger or its equivalent, so as to be capable of operating the seed simultaneously. The handle is attached to the plunger, and the gauge or stop plate to the lower end of the machine, so that the plunger will have a slight inclination from a vertical line. The plunger is cleaned from any dirt which may be attached to it by scrapers, and is capable of being adjusted, so as to plant the seed at any required depth.

DOMESTIC RECEIPTS.

SELECTED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

BOBON GINGERBREAD. This is the gingerbread which, when a boy, made general trainings and "cattle shows" of so much interest to us and the other urbans. We have eaten much gingerbread since then, but none so good as that. Three cups of flour, one cup of molasses, two eggs, one table spoonful of dissolved saleratus, two large table spoonfuls of ginger, one table spoonful of cinnamon, and milk enough to form a dough. Rub the butter and flour together and add the other ingredients. Roll it out in sheets, cut thin, and butter with molasses and water before they are put into the oven. They require a very moderate heat to bake them, as they easily scorch. [Prairie Farmer.]

CHOCOLATE CUSTARDS. Dissolve gently by the side of the fire an ounce and a half of the best chocolate, in rather more than a wine glassful of water, and then boil it until it is perfectly smooth; mix with it a pint of milk well flavored with lemon peel or vanilla, and two ounces of fine sugar, and when the whole boils, stir to it five well beaten eggs that have been strained. Put the custard into a jar or jug, set it into a pan of boiling water, and stir it without ceasing until it is thick. Do not put it into glasses or a dish till nearly or quite cold. These, as well as all other custards, are infinitely finer when made with the yolks only of the eggs.

A HINT. A very pretty and economical finish for sheets, pillow-cases, &c., may be made from the cuttings of bleached muslin, by cutting one and a half inch squares, and folding them bias, from corner to corner, then fold again, so as to form a point, seam on to the straight side on raw edges and face a strip to cover the seam.

HOW TO TREAT YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES WHEN PARTIALLY BURNED. On one of the coldest days of the present month, I pulled off my boots and set them close to a stove which was very hot. The room was filled with a smell of something burning. Turning round, I saw my boots smoking at a great rate. I seized them and immediately besmeared them with soft soap, much of which, owing to their highly heated condition, quickly disappeared in the leather. When they became cold, the leather was soft and pliable; and now, after several days of subsequent wear, they exhibit no marks of having been burned. [Rural New Yorker.]

HOW TO PREVENT WET FEET. The Mechanic's Magazine says:—

I have had three pair of boots for the last six years, (no shoes) and I think I shall not require any more for the next six years to come. The reason is that I treat them in the following manner: I put a pound of tallow and a half pound of rosin in a pot on the fire; when melted and mixed I warm the boots and apply the hot stuff with a painter's brush until neither the sole nor the upper leather will suck in any more. If it is desired that the boots should immediately take a polish, dissolve an ounce of wax in a teaspoonful of lamp black. A day after the boots have been treated with the tallow and rosin, rub them over with this wax in turpentine, but not before the fire. Thus the exterior will have a coat of wax alone, and shines like a mirror. Tallow or any other grease becomes rancid, and rots the stitching as well as the leather; but the rosin gives it an antiseptic quality which preserves the whole. Boots and shoes should be so large as to admit of wearing cork soles. Cork is so hard a conductor of heat that with it in the boots the feet are always warm on the coldest storm floor.

TIME FOR GRAFTING THE APPLE. Please inform me through the proper time for grafting the apple. W. S., Canada West.

The best time is the spring when the buds are beginning to swell, the seasons for grafting having been cut a few weeks previously, and kept in a moist cool place, or in a box of damp moss in a cool cellar, so as to be neither shrivelled or water soaked. Grafts may be cut and inserted the same day, if the buds are not swollen much. Grafts are sometimes set much later, but starting so late, they do not make so good a growth during the summer. [Country Gentleman.]

AN ECONOMICAL DISCOVERY. A baker at Lyons has made a discovery in the art of making bread, which must be very useful in these days of high priced breadstuffs. From a bag of flour weighing 54 pounds, the Paris baker makes about 400 pounds of bread; by the newly discovered method, the baker of Lyons makes 440 pounds of bread. Several gentlemen of the Academy of Science have examined the process, which is thought to promise very favorably, though we do not see how the nutritive qualities of a certain bulk of wheat are to be increased by increasing the weight.

SHADE AND FRUIT TREES. As the spring of the year approaches, would it not be well to call the attention of towns, in their corporate capacities, to setting trees in the highways? Some of the advantages would be that the roads are not so liable to fill with drifted snow; they would afford shade and fruit for travellers, protect orchards from depredations, and would perhaps yield income enough to pay the expense of the labor and the town's poor, and have a surplus left. [Boston Courier.]

FLOORS IN PARIS. A correspondent of the New Orleans Crescent, in Florence, writes:—"There is not one room in one hundred in Paris that has a carpet on it. The floor is made of brick, laid down generally in large squares, and is cleaned by pouring on it a quantity of brick-dust, and then throwing over it a quantity of water, and then scrubbing it till it acquires a polish, fairly painful for the eye to look upon."

FOOT-ROT IN SHEEP. An English flock-master gives the following recipe for this disease:—Sobinina 2 oz., Roman Vitriol 2 oz., Verdigris 2 oz., Rosin 4 oz., White Vitriol 4 oz., Oil of Vitriol 4 oz., White-wine Vinegar 2 quarts, well mixed together; or when the flock is not large, of course half the quantity may be mixed and kept in a bottle for use.

CEMENT FOR BRICKS AND STONES. Sulphate of alum and sulphate of iron, dissolved in water for slacking lime, makes it into a good cement.



THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 23, 1894.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

It is well known to the community, that the subject of a better agricultural education has for several years been discussed, and many plans proposed to bring about so desirable a result. In 1849, we believe, the Governor in his message called the attention of the Legislature to it. A special committee was appointed, who patiently investigated the subject. They voted to recommend the establishment of an agricultural college, and an elaborate report made by Dr. Simonton, of Seaport, who was then a member, was ordered to be printed.

The Legislature thought that such an institution would be too local in its nature and influence, and that the money it would take would be better expended among the common schools and seminaries. The bill was however referred to the next Legislature. At the next Legislature, numerous petitions came in praying for the establishment of a stock and experimental farm instead of a college. These petitions were referred to the committee on education, who after careful deliberation, had all the papers in reference to the college and stock farm, referred to the Board of Agriculture. The Board on coming together took up these subjects, and finally came to the conclusion to postpone the idea of an agricultural college, and to recommend to the Legislature the establishment of a stock farm, which project was ably set forth in a report of a committee of the Board, of which Bro. Seavey, Editor of Farmer and Artisan, was chairman. This plan did not meet the approval of the Legislature, they still declaring that such an establishment would be too local, and that the same expenditure on our common schools and seminaries would diffuse more good, and spread it more equally.

The Board at their session this year, took measures to induce the Legislature to introduce the study of elementary agriculture into our most advanced common schools.

In the mean time, at a large convention of farmers from different sections of the State, these subjects were discussed during a two day's session, and the following resolves passed unanimously:

Resolved, That an appropriation of the public lands belonging to the State, be asked from the Legislature to establish an agricultural school or schools, to be connected with a farm or farms, for the purpose of promoting a systematic and scientific education in agriculture, among the youths of this State.

Resolved, That the Legislature be requested to pass an act, additional to "an act to provide for the education of youth, authorizing and ordering the introduction of the elementary principles of agriculture into our common schools."

A vote was also passed requesting the Board to transmit these resolves to the Legislature, and use their influence to have them passed into laws. This the Board did, and thus the subject of aiding agriculture through the common schools and higher seminaries, as several successive Legislatures professed themselves willing to do, was brought direct before the present session for their action.

But this seems to have incurred the disapprobation of our neighbor of the Gospel Banner, who manifests his feelings towards it in his last week's paper, as follows:

"A bill is before the Legislature making an appropriation of Thirteen Townships of Land (one for each county in the State,) which is to be granted to some existing Academy, or to a new school, that shall give instructions in Agriculture and the Arts. We think this expenditure a hazardous one. No doubt there are speculators who would like to have all the land thrown into the market; and equally true it may be, there are sectarian and other Academies in some of the counties, which, being in a failing condition, would like thus to be endowed as the means of increasing their power and enhancing certain salaries; but, we think, the history of giving townships to Academies, &c., will show that in most cases the land has been about the same as thrown away by the State. We hardly need schools devoted to specific and exclusive instruction. Or, if Agriculture and the Arts require special Academies for those particular matters, we recommend that one Township be given to the State, which should be used for the erection of an Agricultural school and farm, and that such a man as Dr. Holmes be appointed to expend the money and carry on the farm; that another Township be appropriated to King Co. for the erection of an Academy in one of the Bath ship-yards, in which the students should be taught how to construct a ship annually; that another be bestowed upon Hancock Co. for the establishment of an Institution and Water Farm, where our young men can be taught how to draw cod, haddock, hake and mackerel scientifically; that a Township be conferred upon the County of Lincoln for a Quarry School in Rockland, in which operations in quarrying, lime-burning, &c., may be taught *secundum artem*; that another township be assigned to Piscataquis, for the purchase of a site on Katahdin for the establishment of an Iron Work School; that another be granted to Penobscot, where the red-shirts shall learn the art of log driving; that a Township be located in Aroostook, on which an ample edifice shall be erected, furnished with a cabinet supplied with all necessary implements for cutting lumber in winter. Really, we see not why each locality should not be furnished with a school specifically devoted to its peculiar interests; and this would be treating all alike and doing nothing by partiality. Seriously, we think the project of the Bill will prove a visionary scheme, and we hope the Thirteen or Fifteen Townships, if the State must give them away, will be given to our common schools, with books and teachers competent to teach all our children the useful branches of knowledge, which may be used in after life to the best advantage. A scholar generally educated, is the best educated; instructed in one thing, he will be like the English artist who knew only how to make pin-heads. This, to be sure, he could do well; but he knew not how to prepare his own firewood. The present division of labor in machine shops and shoe factories is a very good thing, because a dozen men will make three times as many shoes as one man can make one thing; but the division of studies in schools is a very different thing. Twelve duodecimal students will not make one good scholar."

Does the gentleman single out *Kennebec* as the only county to have an agricultural school in all the State, and name Dr. Holmes to take charge of it with honesty of intention and purity of motive? Or was it with an idea of rousing up certain prejudices against a single locality, to convey an impression that Dr. Holmes advocates the establishment of agricultural schools, under a hope of personal and individual benefit? We make no pretensions to superior sagacity, but we believe we "know a hawk from a heronshaw," when the "wind is N. N. West." At any rate we have a right to speak for that same Dr. Holmes, and to decline the proffered honor which the Editor of the Banner with his characteristic indiscreteness, so generously proffers.

Dr. H. has had experience in the management of such a school, and is content herewith to hold a private station for the rest of his days.

He spent the best five years of his life as a teacher, and more than all of his earnings in such an institution and left it, as the Editor of the Banner knows, with a load of debt incurred on account of it, that hung for years upon him, like a millstone about his neck.

This school was the Gardner Lyceum, an institution well conceived as to its plan, and well designed as it regards the arrangement of the studies there pursued. It originated with the Hon. R. H. Gardner, who spent some thousands to start it. Why did it fail? It failed for the lack of funds—for the want of capital sufficient to carry out the plan in detail. The same fate has followed every school of the kind started in the United States, and for the same reason. The experience gained there, enables him to state to the public on his own positive knowledge, two important facts.

1st. That the sons of farmers and mechanics would gladly avail themselves of the advantages which such institutions would give them.

2d. That it requires the strong arm of the government to endow and sustain them. And here permit us to apply the language and the argument of a brother Editor in Michigan, while urging upon the Legislature of that State, the founding there of such institutions as we plead for:

"All other business and professions depend on the farmers for prosperity. What benefits the majority of farmers, benefits all. If the farmers are intelligent and wealthy, the State is intelligent and wealthy. If the farmers are ignorant and poor, the State is ignorant and poor."

Still further, the money which the government spends is mostly paid by farmers. It is theirs. They contribute it in order that they may be better off than if they kept it all to themselves, but still as they contribute it, they have a right to say how it shall be spent. Now in all communities there are wants—wants which all feel, and yet which no individual—which nothing less than the government can supply. Education is one of these wants, and we all, compelled by the government, pay our money to afford education to our neighbors' children. But is education the *only* want which such a Republic as ours suffers from, and which we must call on the Government to attend to? Certainly not. If the government by establishing agricultural schools, can make us better farmers, so that every acre of land yields double the amount it now does, then we hold it to be the duty of the government to establish such schools—with our own money, remember, for the bulk of the government's money came out of our pockets, though it rarely ever returns to the same snug quarters. In 1850 we had over two millions (2,039,595) of acres under improvement. "Who doubts that if the farmers were as well instructed in their business as the engineers (for instance) are in theirs, we could easily make our farms yield at least \$2 an acre more, yearly? Here then in one item alone we should have an income of four millions a year more than we have at present."

We will notice one or two of the other projects which the Editor of the Banner sneeringly recommends—a township to "King Co.," for the erection of an academy in one of the Bath shipyards, &c., &c.

Well, sir, although he recommends this in fun, we should like no better fun than to see it done. Ship building, or in other words naval architecture, is a noble science, and its principles are based upon some of the most intricate laws of nature. We would like to see some of our public lands devoted to the establishing of an institution or several institutions, to teach this science. In the Bath shipyards, in Damariscotta shipyards, Kennebec shipyards, or any other shipyard in Maine, it would be productive of great and lasting good. The apprentices to this noble art would not then have to go away their work, working hard with their hands to obtain manual skill in their minds were scantily informed. If they could have a school of the kind, where books, and drafts, and competent teachers could unfold to their minds the theory and principles of their trade, how vastly better would they be prepared to perform their labors.

We know of a ship carpenter in a neighboring State who was an apprentice to his father—who was a journeyman ship carpenter. That boy, said his father to us one day, has a better school education than I have, and I mean he shall know more of ship building than I do—give me a list of good books on this subject, and I will see that he has them. The names of a few authors on naval and marine architecture were given him, and the books were obtained. Every leisure hour in the summer, and during the long evenings of winter, might be seen that father and son perusing those authors. Here was a school in a shipyard, a private one to be sure—a humble one it is true, but nevertheless a school, and what was the result?

That boy is now a man, and one of the most skillful and scientific ship builders in the country. His advice and direction is sought after and the utmost confidence placed in his judgment. Go to that man and ask him his opinion of the States establishing and endowing a school for ship carpenters, in Bath shipyard, and he will tell you he has more than once told us, that "he would rejoice to see schools of naval and marine architecture established in all of the maritime States."

But to return to our dear brother's remarks. We have time and space only to notice, in detail, but one or two of his burlesque appropriations for the several counties. We are perfectly willing to submit the question of the expediency and utility of aid to any feasible scheme of agricultural education, to the "red shirted" yeomanry of Lincoln, Penobscot, or Aroostook, if the answers given would not be a scathing rebuke to his nonsense, we have mistaken the spirit of their intelligence and innate love of knowledge. If, however, it is any consolation to him, we might perhaps unite with him in his recommendation that a township be given to Piscataquis "for the purchase of a site on Katahdin, for the establishment of an iron work school," and would advise that such a man as Rev. Mr. Drew, who really has a good mechanical genius, and who loves to hear the clinking of metal, be appointed to expend the money and carry on the work.

In the plenitude of his benevolence, he also recommends that a township be given to Hancock county, "for the establishment of an institution and water farm, where our young fishermen can be taught how to draw cod, haddock, hake and mackerel scientifically."

Well, that is kind, truly; but is the dear man so far behind the times as not to know that the United States Government took that matter in hand years ago, not only for the other States, but for the State of Maine, that those of other States? If he should come to the proper authorities, he will find that soon after the adoption of the federal constitution, in order to encourage young men to embark in the fisheries, or, as our neighbor would say, work in this "water farm," and learn how to draw cod, haddock, hake and mackerel scientifically, and also to become expert mariners, a bounty was given to them, on the

fulfillment of certain conditions, commonly called the fishing bounty.

For more than half a century have this "water farm" and its occupants been the recipients of this munificence, the sum total of which cannot now amount to less than a half million of dollars. Yes, sir, not less than a half million of dollars have been poured into the pockets of the fishermen of Maine, from the treasury of the general Government—they obtain skill in drawing "cod, haddock, hake and mackerel," and they keep all they catch, and make the most profit they can upon them, and then draw a handsome bounty besides!

What have the farmers received? We would be the last man to withhold this bounty from our hardy and enterprising sons of the sea, and their friends ought to be the last men to throw objections, reproach and ridicule upon any move that shall be made to give better instruction and more practical education to the farmers of Maine. They should remember that the latter (the farmers) are the most numerous, and have received the least. In 1850 there were in Maine only twenty-one hundred fishermen, and but thirteen thousand mariners. Putting these all into one class, you have but a little over fifteen thousand, while of farmers there were at that time in Maine more than seventy-seven thousand. These seventy-seven thousand have received comparatively nothing—the fifteen thousand, a million of dollars. Nor is this all. In addition to these vast sums which have been paid out to our fishermen and seamen, there is also a naval school established by the United States, into which are received and there taught at the public expense, those young men who wish to become acquainted with the higher branches of seamanship and naval tactics. Nor is this all. Light houses are built and supported at immense expense, that our fishermen and seamen may be guided safely at night on their way, and armed public ships are stationed in every sea to protect them from any insult or injuries that they may receive from others.

We rejoice that it is, but can the farmers point to any such paternal care? Aye, farmers of Maine, when or where has there ever been a school, academy, or institution of any kind, endowed by either the State or the United States Government, in any way to give you better practical instruction in your business? And now, forsooth, because you have dared to meet in convention, and ask for the endowment of a school in each county—only one in a county, your request is made a subject of rebuke and buffoonery by an Editor who makes great professions of friendship for you and your calling.

We are not a little surprised at this, for two years and a half ago he talked very differently from this, and was the strong advocate for the "specific and exclusive instruction" of the farmer. He then stood up before the farmers of York county, and in a very excellent address, at their Cattle Show, held the following language:

"There is one thing, however, which the State has not done, but which, if done, it has seemed to me would go far to promote the cause of agriculture science and industry. I allude to the establishment of an Agricultural School, and Pattern and Experimental Farm. We have schools to educate men of the unproductive professions—our clergymen, our lawyers and our physicians; indeed, every branch of science and the agricultural, is well cared for by the State—but this, which is as I have said, semi-divine and interwoven with every other science that can adorn the human mind and character is sadly overlooked and neglected, as a distinct object of concern."

"If an Agricultural School should have no other effect than to increase the common respect due to the farming profession, we think it would be entitled to the public approbation and support. And that it would have such an effect is quite certain. Let a school be established with a suitable number of learned and practical Teachers or Professors, who shall instruct the pupils in all the requisite principles of natural science,—in chemistry, geology, mineralogy, botany and the like: and let these principles be applied to a practical account in agricultural and horticultural pursuits. Each of these pupils, as he goes back to his country, carries with him a light that cannot be hid under a bushel; it most shine and enlighten other minds till the whole country is brought to the national flag by the knowledge systematically acquired."

From such a school, and by some such means an attention would be secured begetting the highest respect for the cause of Agriculture; and therefore farming would not be degraded to a clown-hopping display, but would stand as a most honorable business, and we all know that whatever secures its claim to the public respect, will never fail of success.

Connected with such a school should be an Experimental Farm, on which all the theories taught should be demonstrated. Here the pupils. Whatever is not found capable of practical demonstration should be rejected, and exposed for the public good; for the ascertaining of erroneous theories and humbug problems in Agriculture is as important as the discovery and propagation of truth.

The farm, too, should be stocked with the choicest neat cattle, horses, sheep, swine and domestic fowls, that can be gathered from the four quarters of the earth, and thus made the means of extending the best varieties into every part of the commonwealth. It should, also, be the seed bed of the State, where new and useful varieties of vegetables can be introduced and acclimated, and where every county and town, in due time, could be supplied with the most valuable fruits, garden vegetables, and even implements of husbandry."

Such a school and such a farm, it seems to me, would do more than all the State has yet done for the agricultural profession, improve the modes of husbandry, and impart that knowledge, and beget that interest, which are necessary to make the farming business at once respectable, useful and profitable to the whole State."

RAILROAD CONTRACTOR ABANDONED. We learn from the Waterville Mail, that Mr. Stevens, a contractor on the Penobscot and Kennebec Railroad beyond Kendall's Mills, ran away a few days since, leaving creditors and employers minus to the amount of some \$4000. He went to Bangor for money, which he obtained, and then "made tracks" for the west. He was pursued by W. B. S. Moor and H. Newhall, overtaken at his father's house in New Hampshire, and left in charge of an officer, while one of his pursuers went to obtain from the Governor the necessary documents for bringing him to Maine. By some hocus pocus, however, he managed to escape before the return of his pursuer, and at last accounts he was enjoying the "largest kind of liberty."

ARRIVAL OF THE OTTAWA. The new steam propeller OTTAWA, one of the new line of steamers between Liverpool and Portland, arrived at Portland on Friday last. She made the trip in 14 days, and was detained by fog and ice about 30 hours, which makes the actual running time only 124 days from port to port. She brings 160 passengers, and is fully loaded with merchandise, chiefly for Canada, but portions of her cargo for Boston and New York. The steamer Charity, of the same line, which sailed Feb. 23, is not yet heard from. It is thought that she may have got into the ice, from taking the north passage, and keeping too far to the northward.

NOMINATION BY THE GOVERNOR. Wm. M. Reed, who was appointed Sheriff of Lincoln County, having declined the office, the Governor has appointed Joseph Farwell, of Rockland.

CITY ELECTION.

The second trial for Mayor, on Monday last, in this city, resulted in no choice. Mr. Little, however, lacked but three votes of an election.

The following is the vote by wards:—

Ward.	Little.	Stearns.
1.	113	77
2.	95	82
3.	23	46
4.	28	46
5.	41	70
6.	29	57
7.	29	57
Total.	421	444

There will be another trial on Friday next, when the plurality principle will prevail.

The following are the ward officers elected last week:—

Ward 1. Gilman Smith, Warden; Orrin Rowe, Clerk; Charles Gowen, Constable.

Ward 2. Thos. Wadsworth, Warden; John H. Lynde, Clerk; Al Staples, Constable.

Ward 3. John G. Phinney, Warden; S. S. Rogers, Clerk; Darius Paine, Constable.

Ward 4. David Wilbur, Warden; E. S. Folger, Clerk; Nathan Woodward, Constable.

Ward 5. Harvey L. Cushing, Warden; Samuel Patterson, Clerk; Conant S. Hussey, Constable.

Ward 6. Wm. Gaslin, Warden; J. F. Gannett, Clerk; John C. Conable, Constable.

Ward 7. Luther I. Wall, Warden; S. S. Webster, Clerk; Levi Hicks, Constable.

Manly T. Abbot was chosen City Recorder.

On Monday last, at a convention of the City Council elect, the oaths of office were administered by Daniel C. Stanwood, City Clerk.

The two Boards subsequently perfected their separate organizations, by the choice of Robert A. Cony, President pro tem. of the Board of Aldermen, and Edward T. Ingraham, President of the Common Council. Wm. H. Wheeler was chosen Clerk of the Common Council. In convention of the two Boards, Daniel C. Stanwood was elected City Clerk.

In the contested election case, in Ward 3, the Common Council declared Samuel B. Hodgkins, John J. Fuller, and J. Coombs elected, and they were accordingly sworn in.

THE BLACK WARRIOR CASE—MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

This case, which we noticed in our last paper, has excited considerable interest and anxiety throughout the country. The facts in the case, as stated by the New York Tribune, are as follows:—

"The Black Warrior carried, lately, a cargo of cotton from New Orleans for New York, and on entering at Havana found that her consignees there had already cleared her for departure as being in ballast. It appearing that instead of ballast she carried a valuable cargo, the revenue officers seized her for infraction of the law. The consignee said that steamers so laden had always been allowed to enter and clear as in ballast, and indeed that as the loading was intended to relate to the seizure of the Black Warrior, the cotton bales were in fact as strictly ballast as so much weight of stone. This reasoning was, however, not admitted. If the steamers had hitherto been tolerated in violating the law it was time for the practice to cease; the statute was explicit and must now take its course. To this the consignee replied by claiming the well established right of amending the manifest within twelve hours, but was answered that on Wednesday morning of last week, he had already been told. He could take the ship but must give heavy bonds to meet the penalties of the law. This he refused to do, after which the authorities proceeded to take out the cargo, and the ship was towed to the wharf, and the cargo was removed to the warehouse of the revenue officers."

On Tuesday last week, the President communicated the following message to the House of Representatives, in relation to the above difficulty. As will be noticed by the Congressmen, the case is of some importance, and is being watched by the members with general favor. The following is the message:—

To the House of Representatives: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 10th inst., I herewith transmit a report of the Secretary of State, covering all the information received at the Department in relation to the seizure of the Black Warrior at Havana, on the 28th ult. There have been in the course of a few years past many other instances of aggression upon our commerce, violations of the rights of American citizens, and of the national flag, by the Spanish authorities in Cuba, and all attempts to obtain redress have led to protracted and as yet to fruitless negotiations. The documents in these cases are voluminous, and when prepared for the consideration of the Senate, will relate exclusively to the seizure of the Black Warrior, and present so clear a case of wrong that it would be reasonable to expect full indemnity therefor, as soon as this unjustifiable interference with the commerce and the flag of the Catholic Majesty's Government; but similar expectations in other cases have not been realized. The offending party is at our doors, with large powers for aggression, but none, it is alleged, for reparation. The same is the case in another hemisphere, and answers to our complaints are but the repetition of excuses rendered by officials to their superiors, in reply to representations of misconduct.

The peculiar situation of the parties has undoubtedly much aggravated the injuries which our citizens have suffered from the Cuban authorities, and Spain does not seem to appreciate to its full extent its responsibility for the seizure of the Black Warrior, and in giving very extraordinary powers to them, she owes it to justice and to her friendly relation with this government, to guard with great vigilance the obvious exorbitance of these powers, and in case of infraction to provide for prompt redress. I have already taken measures to present to the government of Spain the wanton injury of the Cuban authorities in the detention and seizure of the Black Warrior, and to demand reparation for the injury which has thereby resulted to our citizens. In view of the position of the Island of Cuba, its proximity to our coast, the relations which it must ever bear to our commerce, and the serious and constant danger to our citizens of unfriendly acts infringing upon our commercial rights and the adoption of a policy threatening the honor and security of these States, can long exist with peaceful relations.

In case the measures taken for an amicable adjustment of our difficulties should unfortunately fail, I should not hesitate to use the authority and means which Congress may grant to ensure the observance of our just rights, to obtain redress for injuries received, and to vindicate the honor of our flag. I suggest to Congress the propriety of adopting such provisional measures as the exigency may seem to demand.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

The Boston Traveller of Wednesday has the following paragraph:—

"A dispatch from Washington dated yesterday, states that the Cuban Governor has apologized for the Black Warrior affair. There will be no trouble. The Cuban authorities it appears express great regret, and offer ample compensation. It is believed that the President will settle the matter without the intervention of Congress."

THOSE TABLEUX. In compliance with the general desire, the series of Tableaux exhibited at the recent Levee of the Universalist Society at this city, will be repeated at Winthrop Hall, on Thursday evening next, 23d inst. Several additional scenes will be given, together with appropriate vocal and instrumental music. Arrangements will be made by which the audience will be enabled to witness the tableaux under the most favorable circumstances. Admission, 12c.

QUICK PARADE. The clipper ship Comet, arrived at New York on Tuesday last week, from San Francisco, having made the passage in seventy-six days and seven hours.

MAINE VESSEL LOST, &c.

We notice the following account of the loss of the barque Robert Walsh, of Thomaston, in our exchanges:—

"Pieces of wreck, with 'Thomaston' on the stern plank, and two barrels of brass, marked 'Robert Walsh's stores,' came ashore at Orono, N. C., 8th ult. Eleven dead bodies had been found, believed to be her crew, and there is no doubt that the vessel was wrecked off Cape Hatteras. She was from Baltimore for New Orleans, with coal, and went to sea 6th ult. The only insurance in Baltimore is for \$50,000 on the freight money."

The ship Living Age, which arrived at New York from Canton, on the 14th inst., reports that on Feb. 23d, lat. 37°, lon. 74° 20', she took off the captain and crew of the dismantled schr. D. O. Oakes of Bangor, Me., McLanise, master, from Santa Cruz, bound to New York, with a cargo of rum and sugar; had been dismantled in the gale of the 20th. The crew were disabled, and vessel leaking badly. The vessel was set on fire, after removing the crew.

The schr. Ceresco, of Ellsworth, from Wilmington, at New York, reports that on the 25th ult., off Cape Hatteras, while lying to in the SE gale, lost her load of resin, carried away by a boom, split foremast and jib, stove boat, and received other damage; was blown across the Gulf Stream twice. On the 26th ult., Mr. Jabez Grant, first officer, and a mate of Ellsworth, was washed overboard and lost.

HEAVY GALE. On Saturday last, we were visited by a severe gale, which began in the morning and continued, with more or less severity, through the day. Though no material damage was experienced in this vicinity, other sections of the country were not so fortunate.

The storm extended over the most of New England and New York. We have space for but few particulars.

The depot at Cape Elizabeth, the junction of the Kennebec and Boston railroads, was blown down,—the second time such an accident has happened at this place.

In Boston, a man named David Regan was killed by a heavy piece of stone, blown from a chimney. There were other less important accidents and incidents of the storm.

In Waltham, the car house of the Fitchburg Railroad Co., 70 feet in length, was totally demolished.

In Fitchburg, the large brick engine house belonging to the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad Company, was blown over with a tremendous crash, a portion of the brick work falling through the gas building adjoining, demolishing the gasometer, causing the gas to escape so that it was impossible to light the place that night. There were no persons in either building at the time.

In Peppercorn, a house was blown down, containing nine persons, and, singular to record, not one of them was injured.

In Springfield, a few moments before the train entered the depot, the wind struck the roof of this immense building, which is 400 feet in length, carrying away about 500 feet of it into the neighboring streets, demolishing vehicles, starting the houses, but no one was seriously injured. The large Coffee Factory of Messrs. Fox & Co. was completely demolished, and several other large buildings were destroyed.

FIRE AND ACCIDENT IN FARMINGTON. The Farmington Chronicle states that a fire was discovered, on Wednesday morning of last week, in the large three story brick store, belonging to Capt. Daniel Beal, in the centre of a large fire-proof block recently erected in that village. There being no engine or fire company, it was some time before any effective measures could be adopted to extinguish the fire, but by swift exertions it was finally subdued. Mr. J. S. Swift, late editor of the Chronicle, while engaged in carrying snow into the building, fell on the ice and fractured his leg above the ankle, both bones being broken. Mr. Wm. True also had his thumb broken. The Chronicle does not state the amount of damage, but says that it is considerable.

TOWN OFFICERS. The following were elected town officers of New Portland, for the current year:—

Town Clerk, John P. Hodsdon.

Selectmen, John P. Hodsdon, Wm. Sawyer, Asaph Hutchins.

Treasurer, Asa A. Knowles.

Town Agent, Joshua Butts.

LARGE SALE OF STEREOTYPE PLATES. Mr. Abraham Hart, an extensive book publisher in Philadelphia, and for many years of the firm of Carey & Hart, has retired from business, and a few days since, sold at public auction all his stereotype plates, for the aggregate sum of \$55,960.

THREE CHILDREN AT ONE BIRTH. On Sunday last, (12th inst.) says the Journal, a city who had been living in a family in this city, as a domestic, was taken suddenly ill, conveyed to the Poor House, and soon after became the mother of three living children, all girls. The children subsequently died.

MONMOUTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. Mr. J. M. Heath, the Secretary of the Monmouth Mutual Fire Insurance Co., having resigned his office, Washington Wilcox, Esq., has been elected to fill the vacancy. Jacob G. Smith, Esq., succeeds Mr. Wilcox as President of the company.

THE LIBERAL. We have received the first number of a new paper, with the above title, published in Bangor, by Brewster & Co. It is opposed to the Maine Law, goes in for the Nebraska Bill, and is "established for all liberal men." Terms, \$2 per annum.

THE ERICSSON. On Wednesday last week the machinery of the caloric ship Ericsson was put in motion, and produced nine and ten revolutions a minute, with only one engine, equal to the same number of miles per hour. The other engine will be in order by the first of April, and it is intended to send her to Havre or Liverpool, about the middle of April.

NAVAL FORCES IN THE WEST INDIES. We learn, by a despatch from Washington, that active preparations are going on at the Navy Department, for augmenting our naval force in the West Indies.

FATAL ACCIDENT. On the 14th ult., Wm., son of Mr. George Blake, of Atkinson, was killed by a coil, and so severely injured that he died on the fifth day afterwards. He was 14 years of age.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS. On Monday last week, Geo. W. Pickering was re-elected Mayor of Bangor, by a large majority.

In Belfast, Sherburne Palmer was elected Mayor, and Andrew T. Palmer, William Rust, Calvin Hervey, and N. H. Bradbury, Aldermen.

DARING ROBBERY AT PITTSBURGH. The Pittsburg Gazette, of Monday, 13th inst., contains an account of the robbing of the Custom House at that place of \$10,000. Mr. Hastings, the Collector, was waylaid by three men on Friday night, knocked down, and while in an insensible state, robbed of the keys of the Custom House, and \$320 in money. The robbers then proceeded to the Custom House, unlocked the vault and carried off a bag containing \$10,000 in gold, but it was too bulky to be carried off. Mr. Hastings lies in a precarious state, and fears are entertained that his skull is fractured by the blows which he received.

GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS, &c.

Tunneling the Ohio River. The Mayor of Cincinnati has received a communication from Alonzo Hitchcock, of Chicago, accompanied by a design of an iron tunnel which has been submitted to the authorities of the city for the tunneling of the Ohio river. The dimensions are sixteen feet wide, eighteen feet high—footage eight feet wide. The tunnel, to be entirely constructed of cast or wrought iron. He proposes to construct a tunnel, in accordance with the design, under the bed of the Ohio river, at Cincinnati.

Done Brown. A little girl being employed by her mother to dry a towel by the fire, inquired, very innocently, after the lapse of a few minutes, "Mother, is it enough when it looks brown?"

Systematic Thieving. A few days since a young married woman was arrested in New Haven on a charge of stealing goods from a store. Upon examination it was found that she had ingeniously arranged rows of pins upon her dress, in such a manner as to catch anything which she might hastily throw under her mantle. She satisfied the demands of justice by paying a fine.

Law of Schools. In a recent case at Lawrence, where a teacher was sued for injuring a boy under her charge, by correction, the great principle of law was conceded by both parties that for school purposes the teacher is possessed of all the authority of the parent, and is not liable for any punishment of a pupil unless it be such a punishment as would be unlawful if inflicted by a parent. Verdict for defendant.

Carpenteries. We call the attention of our patrons to the advertisement of Messrs. W. P. Tenney & Co. Their warehouse, over the Boston & Maine Depot, covers an area of nearly one-half acre, and probably the largest and best of the kind to be found in this country. The most of their samples are exhibited on one floor, thereby rendering it easy to examine their stock and make selections. It is really worth a visit to Boston to see this magnificent display of this desirable comfort of life.

Rats. A Jamaica paper speaking of these interesting animals, says: "Rats are sadly destructive to the foreign mails, particularly on board the West India packets, where the rats are large and voracious. It is curious that these vermin will not touch leather bags of a tan color. Rats are extremely fond of parchment, but sailing vessels they will not touch. Some time since a will in England was required in Demerara. After immense trouble and expense the will was obtained and sent out. When the mail arrived at Demerara, however, the rats had eaten the will, and nothing but the seal was left."

Tobacco in the United States. The production of tobacco in the United States in the ten years from 1840 to 1850, decreased from 219,163,319 lbs. to 199,532,494 lbs. The export in that time decreased from 184,955,797 lbs. to 122,408,780 lbs. The consumption increased from 54,543,557 to 81,933,571; or from 2 lbs. 4 oz. to each of the inhabitants to 3 lbs. 8 oz. The total value in 1840, when it was worth 61 cents, was \$2,883,657, and in 1850 when it brought 6 cents, \$1,031,283.

The Harpers' Establishment. The N. Y. Commercial states that the Harpers' printing and publishing establishment is to be rebuilt on the old site in Franklin square, extending through to Cliff street. The present intention is to erect three large buildings, separated from each other by a wide space, and made as

REES.

[illegible]

THE BOY AND THE ANGEL

The Story-Teller.

FOR HUSBANDS AND WIVES.

"The Little Foxes that Spoil the Vines,"

"Now for some supper," said the doctor cheerfully, as he placed the child in its high chair.

thoughts have gone back to the little cloud, once no larger than a man's hand, and we have mourned as we thought how easily it might then have been chased away.

any length of time, things were sure to go wrong there; the cooking was spoiled or the work undone. If her eyes were not constantly on the children, then trouble ensued; now a

A sale by—price 10 cents. **EDWARD FENNO.**
THE CONFLICT OF AGES; or, the great debate on the
moral relations of God and man—by Edward Becher,
D. D. For sale by **EDWARD FENNO.**
A. Bartlett, Hallowell. **A. T. Moore, Aroostook.**
Golden, Eton.
¶ All letters on business connected with the office, to in-
sure attention must be addressed to the Publisher, "Kenne-
bunk, Augusta Maine."

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